

THE PRINCIPAL
ACTS
OF THE
General Assembly
OF THE
CHURCH
OF
SCOTLAND;

Conveened at Edinburgh, May 11th, 1721.

Collected and extracted from the Records, by the Clerk thereof.

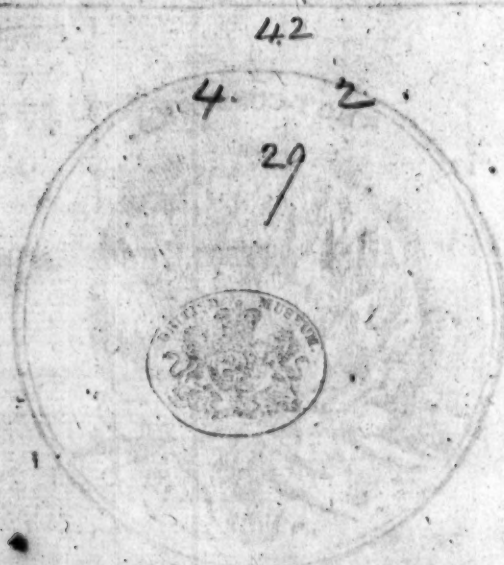


EDINBURGH,
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Printed by the Booksellers of Edinburgh, Glasgow, and London.
 The Church of Scotland, 1791.

THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE
General Assembly

OF THE
Church of Scotland;

Holden and begun at *Edinburgh*, upon *Thursday* the 11th Day of *May* 1721 Years, and ending the 17th Day of that same Month and Year.

I.

ACT appointing the King's Commission to John Earl of Rothes, to be recorded.

At *Edinburgh*, the 11th April 1721, Sess. 1.

THE General Assembly of the Ministers and Ruling Elders of this National Church of *Scotland*, being convened and constituted, there was produced to them, by the Right Honourable John Earl of Rothes, His Majesty's Commission, sealed with the Seal ordained to be kept and used in *Scotland*, in place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, and of the same Tenor with the Commission granted by His Majesty to the foresaid Earl, in the Year One thousand seven hundred and Fifteen, and subsequent Assemblies, appointing him His Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative in this Assembly; which Commission being publicly read, with all due Honour and Respect, it is by Order of this Assembly recorded in their Books, *ad futuram rei memoriam*.

II.

The King's most gracious Letter to the General Assembly, Presented to them by His Majesty's Commissioner, May 11. 1721. Sess. 1.

GEORGE R.

Right Reverend and Well-beloved, We Greet you well: We have received so many Instances of the Loyalty and Affection of the Church of *Scotland*, both to Our Person and Government, which hath been manifested, as well in the last, as in former Assemblies, That We very willingly countenance, by Our Royal Authority, your Meeting at this Time, and take this Opportunity of renewing to you Our repeated Resolutions to promote the Interest, and inviolably to maintain the

the Rights and Privileges of the Presbyterian Church of Scotland; nor do We doubt, but you will concur with Us, in Our earnest Endeavours for the promoting the True reformed Religion, and Virtue, and for the discouraging of Vice and Immorality; and that nothing will be wanting on your Parts for the obtaining these desirable Ends.

We hope you will apply your selves with Concord and Unanimity, to dispatch the Affairs proper and necessary to be considered in this Assembly, and guard against all Matter of Contention, since you cannot but foresee the many unhappy Consequences with which Divisions among you may be attended.

We are so sensible of the many faithful Services of Our Right Trusty and Well-beloved Cousin, John Earl of Rothes, which he has evidenced in so many former Assemblies, that We have thought fit to renew Our Choice of him, to represent Our Royal Person in this, believing, That none can be more acceptable to you, than One who upon all Occasions has distinguish'd himself for the Interests of Our Government, of the Protestant Religion in general, and for the Safety and Well-fare of the established Church of Scotland in particular: And so bid you heartily Farewell.

Given at Our Court at St. James's, the 4th Day of May 1721, and of Our Reign the Seventh Year.

By His Majesty's Command,

ROXBURGH.

To the Right Reverend, and well-beloved,
The Moderator, Ministers, and Ruling
Elders of the General Assembly of the
Church of Scotland.

III.

The General Assembly's Answer to the King's most gracious Letter.

Edinburgh, 13th of May 1721.

May it please your Majesty,

THE particular Notice Your Majesty is pleased to take in Your most gracious Letter to us, of the steady Loyalty and Affection of the Church of Scotland, to Your Majesty's Person and Government, which they have always judged their Duty and Interest to maintain, does encourage, and will excite us to give renewed Instances of both, on every proper Occasion that may occur: We esteem it a singular Instance of the Divine Goodness, that we can hold our Assemblies under the Protection of Your Majesty's Authority; and do, with all humble Thankfulness, acknowledge Your Royal Favour, in Countenancing our Meeting at this Time, and renewing to us Your repeated Resolutions, to promote the Interest, and inviolably to maintain the Rights & Privileges of this Church.

We

We should be extremely wanting in our Duty to that GOD, by whom Kings reign: and unworthy of a King, who hath shewed so great Zeal for promoting the reformed Religion and Virtue, and for discouraging Vice and Immorality, if we do not, on our Parts, most chearfully concur with Your Majesty, for obtaining these valuable and desirable Ends. We are very sensible of the fatal Consequences which would unavoidably attend Divisions among our selves; and do resolve, in the Strength of our most gracious GOD, through CHRIST, to guard against all Matter of Contention; and to dispatch the Affairs proper and necessary to be considered in this Assembly, with that Unanimity and Concord, which becomes the Members of a Body, whereof our Lord JESUS CHRIST, the Prince of Peace, is the Head.

The many faithful Services of the Earl of *Rothes*, when representing Your Majesty in so many former Assemblies; and his having distinguished himself on all Occasions for the Interest of Your Majesty's Government, and of the Protestant Religion, and for the Safety and Well-fare of the established Church of *Scotland*, does render Your Majesty's Choice of him to represent Your Royal Person in this Assembly most acceptable to us.

We do with the greatest Thankfulness acknowledge the Goodness of GOD, in protecting Your Majesty's Person, and conferring so many signal Blessings upon Your Royal Family; particularly in Strengthening the Protestant Succession, by the Birth of a young Prince.

That Your Majesty may be long preserved for the Comfort of this Church, the Happiness of Your People, the Support of the reformed Interest, and Relief of distressed Protestants abroad, and the general Good of *Europe*; That the best of Blessings may be bestowed upon their Royal Highnesses, the Prince and Princess of *Wales*, and all their Royal Issue, and that after a long and prosperous Reign on Earth, You may be crowned with a blessed Immortality, are the earnest and fervent Prayers of,

May it please Your Majesty,

*Your Majesty's most Faithful, most
Obedient and most Humble Subjects,*

*The Ministers and Elders, met in this
National Assembly of the Church of
Scotland.*

*Signed in our Presence, in our Name,
and at our Appointment, by*
THO. BLACK, Moderator.

IV.

Commission by the General Assembly, to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for discussing several Affairs referred to them.

At Edinburgh, May 17, 1721. Sess. 6.

THE General Assembly taking to their Consideration, that there are several weighty Affairs, which they cannot overtake; do therefore nominate and appoint their Reverend Brethren, Masters, Thomas Black at Perth their Moderator, Laurence Johnston at Dunse, James Gilliland at Greenlaw, John Pow at Caldstream, George Hume at Chrinside, James Christie at Simpron, James Ramsay at Kelso, John Pollock at Roxburgh, David Brown at Gordon, John Gandie at Erlstoun, Alexander Colden at Oxnam, Robert Bell at Cavers, John Gilchrist at Abotsfale, Adam Miln at Melrose, Robert Lithgow at Askirk, Robert Bichet at Midelee, James Currie at Hoddam, Francis Lindsay at Johnstoun, Andrew Clerk at Tinnergirth, Gabriel Gallen at Wamphrey, James Murray at Peupont, Robert Farden at Glencarn, Robert Blair at Holywood, James Hill at Kirkpatrick-Durham, Patrick Linn at Dumfries, Andrew Cameron at Kirkcudbrights, James Monteith at Borgue, William Falconer at Keltoun, Thomas Ker at Wigtoun, Thomas Campbell at Monigaff, Robert Boyd at Portpatrick, James Tweeddale at Glenlace, Andrew Rodger at Galstoun, John Hunter at Air, Robert Alexander at Girvan, James Laurie at Dalrymple, Samuel Lochart at Ochiltree, John Glasgow at Kilbirne, Hugh Falside at Newmilns, James Semple at Dregborn, Robert Johnston at Kilbrachan, Robert Wodrow at Eastwood, Henry Hunter at Merns, John Muirhead at Cambasnethan, Robert Hamilton at Hamiltoun, Matthew Connel at Kilbride, Thomas Linnen at Lesmahago, James Hepburn at Crawfurdmuir, James Dick at Carluke, James Stirling at Barony-kirk, Andrew Tait at Carmunnock, John Hamiltom at Glasgow, John Stirling, Principal of the College of Glasgow, John Ritchie at Old Kilpatrick, Robert Wallace at Badernock, James Bain at Bonhill, Walter Campbell at Dunoon, Robert Glen at Kingairth, James Bawes at Campbeltoun, Daniel M'Lean at Arran, Alexander Campbell at Inverary, Patrick Pollock at Southknapdale, Dougald Campbell at Lesmoir, Daniel Morison at Kilbranden, Murdoch M'Leod at Glenelg, Archbald M'Queen at Snizort, Alexander Glass at Kincleven, George Frier at Leithendie, Archibald Campbell at Weem, James Stewart at Monlin, Andrew Darline at Kinoul, Robert Lyon at Kinfauns,

fauns, James Ramsay at Collace, John McCallum at Cal-
 lendar, Archibald Gibson at Dumblain, John Warden at Gar-
 gunnock, Charles Muir at Stirling, David Shaw at Auchter-
 order, William Haly at Muthill, Lauchlan McIntosh at
 Dunning, Allan Logan at Culross, John Gib at Cleish, John
 Bryce at Saline, James Henry at Kinghorn, Alexander Bouthorn
 at Dysart, Thomas Nairn at Abotshall, William Greenlies at
 Cires, William Knox at Dairsey, Alexander Anderson at
 Falkland, William Miles at Monzie, William Moncrief at
 Largo, James Hadow Principal of the New College of St.
 Andrews, John McGormach at St. Andrews, John Craigie at
 St. Monan's, Joseph Drew Principle of St. Leonards College
 of St. Andrews, Thomas Aiton at Alith, James Fleeming at
 Glenilay, Thomas Ogilvie at Coupar, Andrew Arrot at Dun-
 chan, Robert Young at Innerarity, John Willieson at Dun-
 dee, Robert Kinloch there, John Ballantine at Monyfeith,
 Thomas Watson at St. Vigens, James Small at Carmylie, James
 Trail at Montrose, Robert Stephan at Craig, Robert Gray at
 Brechin, William Trail at Benholm, David Burn at Fet-
 terness, Henry Hamilton at Glenbervie, Thomas Blackwell Prin-
 cipal of the College of new Aberdeen, David Anderson Pro-
 fessor of Divinity in the King's College at Aberdeen, William
 Osburn at Fintray, John Osburn at Aberdeen, James Ogilvie at
 Foot of Dee, George Chalmers Principle of the King's College
 of Aberdeen, John McInnes at Crathie, Alexander Toasch at
 Tarlane, Alexander Deans at Birs, James Gordon at Alloord,
 George Moir at Torwie, Daniel McSwain at Strathdon, Wil-
 liam Forbes at Tarves, James Burnet at Ellon, William Wat
 at Inverury, William Johnston at Premney, Gilbert Gerard at
 Chappel of Garioch, William Leslie at St. Fergus, James Leslie
 at Crimond, Alexander Auchinleck at Frasersburgh, James
 Stewart at Alva, George Johnston at King-Edward, Peter
 Darling at Boyndie, James Innes at Bamff, John Gilchrist at
 Keith, Walter Sim at Glas, Thomas McCulloch at Bellie,
 Alexander Fraser at Inveraven, James Chapman at Crom-
 dale, James Thomson at Elgin, Charles Primrose at Elgin,
 John Crockat at Dallas, James Winchester at Rathven,
 Robert Baillie at Inverness, Daniel Mackenzie at Pettie,
 Alexander McBean at Inverness, Alexander Reay at Avach,
 John McArthur at Kilurnan, Daniel McGiligin at Alness,
 Alexander Fraser at Urquhart, Thomas Chisolm at Kilmo-
 rack, Hugh Monro at Tain, Walter Ross at Killimuir-
 Easter, John McKay at Larg, Robert Kirk at Dornock, Wil-
 liam Innes at Thurso, George Brodie at Duirness, John
 Nisbet at Sandwick, James Weir at Firth, Alexander Nis-
 bet at Shappinshay, John Scollay at Strongsay, James Grierson
 at Tingwall, James Heart at Edinburgh, William Hamilton
 Professor of Divinity in the College there, William Mit-
 chel at Edinburgh, Samuel Sempel at Libertoun, William
 Miller at Edinburgh, John Mathison there, William Wis-
 heart

heart Principal of the College there, *Alexander Dalgleish* at *Linlithgow*, *John Brown* at *Abercorn*, *John Brand* at *Borrowstounness*, *James Nasmyth* at *Dalmeny*, *Thomas Simpson* at *Brughton*, *James Wilson* at *Symington*, *Andrew Mitchel* at *Manor*, *James Gray* at *Innerleithing*, *Stephen Paton* at *Newlands*, *William McGeorge* at *Pennycook*, *Patrick Cuming* at *Ormistoun*, *James Burnet* at *Lefwade*, *Mathew Reid* at *North-Berwick*, *Matthew Simson* at *Pancatland*, *John Cuming* at *Humbie*, *Andrew Brown* at *Spot*, and *Thomas Davidson* at *Whitekirk*, Ministers: His Grace *John Duke of Athol*, the Right Honourable *John Earl of Rothes*, *David Earl of Buchan*, *Charles Earl of Lauderdale*, *Thomas Earl of Haddington*, *James Earl of Findlater*, *Patrick Earl of Marchmont*, *James Earl of Hyndford*, *David Earl of Glasgow*, *Archibald Earl of Islay*, *Alexander Lord Polwarth*, *Lord Charles Ker* Director of His Majesty's Chancery, *William Lord Rose*, *James Lord Torphichen*, *George Lord Reay*, *Sir Hugh Dalrymple* of *North Berwick* Baronet, Lord President of the Session, *Mr. Robert Dundas* younger of *Arnistoun* His Majesty's Advocate, *Adam Cockburn* of *Ormistoun* Lord Justice Clerk, *Sir John Maxwell* of *Pollock* Baronet, *Sir Alexander Ogilvie* of *Forglen* Baronet, *Mr. James Erskine* of *Grange*, *Sir Francis Grant* of *Cullen* Baronet, *Mr. James Hamilton* of *Pancatland*, *Sir Andrew Hume* of *Kimmergham*, *Sir Walter Pringle* of *Newhall*, Eight of the Senators of the College of Justice, *Mr. John Clark* younger of *Pennycook*, one of the Barons of Exchequer, *Mr. Patrick Ogilvie* of *Longmay*, *Mr. Arthur Forbes* of *Breda*, *Mr. Francis Montgomery* of *Giffan*, *Colonel John Erskine* of *Carnock*, *Sir Robert Sinclair* of *Longformacus* Baronet, *Sir John Stewart* of *Allanbank* Baronet, *Thomas Kennedy* Merchant in *Kelso*, *Sir Gilbert Eliot* of *Minto* Baronet, *Robert Rutherford* of *Farnilees*, *Sir William Johnston* of *Westerbal* Baronet, *Patrick Graham* of *Waterhead*, *Robert McGachan* of *Dalbuhart*, *John Paterson* Baillie in *Drumfries*, *Captain Samuel McClellan* of *Barchay*, *Colonel William Maxwell* of *Cardonness*, *John Martin* of *Airies*, *Sir Charles Hay* of *Park* Baronet, *Sir Adam Whiteford* of *Blairquhan* Baronet, *Mr. James Boswell* of *Auchinleck* Advocate, *Robert Muir* of *Blairstoun* Provost of *Air*, *Francis Dunlop* of that Ilk, *Sir Robert Pollock* of that Ilk, *Alexander Finlayson* Clerk of *Glasgow*, *Sir James Stewart* of *Goodtrees* Baronet, *Hugh Montgomery* of *Heartfield*, *John Bowman* Provost of *Glasgow*, *Sir James Smollet* of *Bonhill*, *Sir James Campbell* of *Ardringlass* Baronet, *Mr. Alexander Campbell* Advocate, *George Drummond* and *James Nimmo* Merchants in *Edinburgh*, *Peter Campbell* of *Inverinon*, *William McLeod* of *Hammer*, *Alexander Robertson* of *Strathloch*, *Robert Robertson* Provost of *Perth*, *William Ferguson* Dean of Guild there, *Sir James Livingston* of *Glentirren* Baronet, *Brigadier James Bruce* of *Kennet*, *Mr. Alexander Bruce* younger of *Kennet*, *Sir James Campbell*

Campbell of Aberuchle Baronet, Colonel John Erskine Uncle to Alva, George Balfour of Balbirnie, Mr. Robert Hay of Nachtan, Mr. Laurence Keir in Coupar, Sir Robert Anstruther of Balcaskie, Mr. Patrick Halden Advocate, Patrick Drummond of Gairdrum, James Lindsay Baillie in Aberbrothock, Andrew Beattie Baillie of Bervie, Robert Stewart Provost of Aberdeen, George Fordice late Provost there, Mr. George Gordon Professor of the Oriental Languages in the King's College there, Arthur Forbes elder of Echt, Captain John Forbes of Boyndile, John Fordice of Gask, Mr. Alexander Gardin of Troup Advocate, Robert Stewart Provost of Bamff, Mr. Patrick Grant of Easter Elchies Advocate, James Spence of Alveskirtoun, Joseph Brodie of Miltoun, Ludovick Dunbar of Westfield Sheriff Principle of Murray, Mr. Duncan Forbes Advocate, John Forbes of Culloden Provost of Inverness, Hugh Rose of Kilsavock, Alexander Gordon of Ardoch, Colonel Robert Monro of Foulis, George Monro of Culcairn, George Monro of Newmore, William Ross of Aldie, Hector Monro of Naver, Mr. Robert Honyman of Gremsey, Sir Alexander Gilmor of Craigmiller Baronet, Doctor Alexander Dundas His Majesty's Physician, James Balfour of Pilrig, John Campbell Lord Provost of Edinburgh, John Wightman of Mauldslie Baillie there, George Dundas of that Ilk, Mr. John Dundas of Philpstoun Procurator for the Church, George Hill Baillie in Queensberry, William Baillie of Lamington, William Murray of Spittlebaugh, Sir John Clark of Pennycook Baronet, Charles Brown of Goltoun, Mr. Hugh Dalrymple Advocate, Sir William Baird of Newbyth Baronet, and Sir James Hall of Dunglass Baronet, Ruling Elders, to be Commissioners of this General Assembly, to the Effects aftermentioned, with Power to the said Commission, or their Quorum, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty One of the said Commissioners, whereof Twenty one are always to be Ministers, to meet and convene within the Assembly House at Edinburgh, the first free Day after the Dissolution of this Assembly, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon; And afterwards the second Wednesdays of August, November and March, next to come, and oftner when and where they shall think needful and convenient, with Power to the said Commission to chuse their own Moderator: And sicklike, the General Assembly fully impowers and authorizes their said Commissioners, or their Quorum above mentioned, to Cognosce and Finally Determine as they shall see Cause, in every Matter referred, or that shall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Assembly; and to do every thing contained in, and conform to the Instructions given, or to be given them by this Assembly; And to advert to the Interests of the Church on every Occasion, that the Church, and

present Establishment thereof, do not suffer or sustain any Prejudice, which they can prevent, as they will be answerable; providing this General Clause be not extended to particular Affairs or Processes before Presbyteries or Synods, that may not be of universal Concern to, or Influence upon this whole Church: And it is hereby appointed, That what shall be determined at one Diet of the said Commission, with relation to private Causes, shall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and shall stand and continue in Force, till disproven by the General Assembly: And the General Assembly renews the Instructions given by the General Assembly One Thousand Seven Hundred and Seventeen to their Commission, and appoints the same to stand in full Force, as Instructions to the Commissioners above named, and to be observed by them in all Points, as if the same were specially herein insert; and that they enquire into the publishing and spreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending toward the promoting a Scheme of Opinions inconsistent with our Confession of Faith; and that they recommenders of such Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word or Print, be called before them, to answer for such Recommendations: And Further, The said Commission is hereby empowered to receive any References and Appeals that shall be made to them from Synods and Presbyteries in Matters of Doctrine; and particularly to take under Consideration the Representation presented to this Assembly by Mr. James Hog and others, about the Book, Intituled, *The Rise of Modern Divinity*, and to call the Subscribers of that Representation before them or their Committees, and open and prepare these Matters concerning Doctrine for the next Assembly, but not to give a final Decision therein: Likewise to take Care, That the Impressions of the Holy Scriptures, the Confession of Faith and Catechisms, and such Books as are authorized by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government thereof, be correct, and to give Directions about Printing the same: They are also appointed at their first Meeting, to take under Consideration, all the Representations of the Growth of Popery within the Bounds of this National Church, and of Jacobite Meetings therein, which have been brought up to this and former Assemblies or Commissions thereof, or that may be further offered to this Commission, and to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy & speedy Redress: And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly Prohibited and Discharged to meddle in any other Matters than what are committed and referred to them, as above mentioned; And in all their Actings, they are to proceed according

to the Acts and Constitutions of this Church, and do nothing contrary thereto, or to the prejudice of the same; Declaring, That in and for all their Actings, they shall be accountable to, & censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see Cause; And this Commission is to continue and endure until another Commission be appointed: & Members are required to attend the Diets of the said Commission, and Absents therefrom ordered to be punished, according to the 17th Act of the General Assembly Anno 1706: And for the better securing of a Quorum, and Attendance of Members on the Commission, the General Assembly prohibits the Presbytery of Edinburgh, and other Presbyteries within twelve Miles thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commission; and such of the Members of these Presbyteries as are on the Commission, are required all of them to give punctual Attendance on the Diets thereof, and Presbyteries at a greater Distance, who have four or more Members on the Commission are to take Care, that at least two of them attend each Diet of the same.

A Table of the printed Acts of the General Assembly.

ACT and Resolve about the Overtures concerning Kirk-Sessions and Presbyteries, and planting vacant Churches.

At Edinburgh May 17, 1721: Sess. 6. & ult.

THE General Assembly finding, That the Plurality of Presbyteries, who have sent their Remarks upon the Overtures concerning the Kirk-Sessions, and Presbyteries, and concerning the planting of vacant Churches, sanguam jure deobediunt, are not for passing them into Acts at this Time: Therefore this Assembly does unanimously agree and resolve, not to pass the foresaid Overtures into Acts; And further they declare and appoint, That before the foresaid Overtures be past into Acts by any subsequent Assembly, they shall be again transmitted by the General Assembly to the several Presbyteries, in Order to have their Opinion thereupon.

Act appointing the Diet of the next General Assembly.

At Edinburgh, 17th May 1721. Sess. 6. & Ult.

THe next General Assembly of this Church is appointed to be holden at *Edinburgh*, the Twelfth Day of *May*, One thousand seven hundred and twenty two Years.

This General Assembly was concluded with Prayer, Singing of the 133 Psalm throughout, and pronouncing of the Blessing.

Collected and extracted from the Registers of the General Assembly, by

JO. DUNDAS, *Clk. Eccl. Scot.*

A Table of the printed Acts of the General Assembly, held Anno 1721.

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INDEX of the Acts of the General Assembly, held in the Year 1721, which are not here printed.

After Sermon by Mr. William Hamilton Professor of Divinity in the College of Edinburgh, Moderator of the preceding Assembly, the Ministers and Ruling Elders, Members of the Assembly, did convene, and Mr. Thomas Black Minister at Perth was chosen Moderator, May 11. 1721, Session 1.

The King's Commission to the Earl of Rothes recorded, *Ibid.*

His Grace His Majesty's Commissioner's Speech to the General Assembly, at opening thereof, *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Return to His Majesty's Commissioner's Speech, *Ibid.*

Committee appointed for drawing an Answer to His Majesty's gracious Letter, *Ibid.*

Committee for Overtures appointed, *Ibid.*

Committee for Bills, References and Appeals, *Ibid.*

The 7th Act of the General Assembly, Anno 1718, for the better Dispatch of Business, read, and the punctual Observation thereof enjoined, *Ibid.*

Committee appointed to consider the Commissions to Members of this Assembly, and try how they agree with the Acts of Assembly, to censure Absents, name Ministers to preach before the Commissioner's Grace, to receive in Lists of Probationers and Students of Divinity, in order to their being recorded; and to lay their Report as to Commissions, first before the Committee for Overtures, *Ibid.*

A Diet appointed for Prayer.

A Sederunt spent in Prayer, May 12, 1721. Sess. 2.

Ministers named to preach before his Grace His Majesty's Commissioner, *Ibid.*

Some more Commissions produced, and Members added to Committees, *Ibid.* and Sess. 3.

An Answer to His Majesty's gracious Letter, unanimously approved, and being signed by the Moderator, the Lord Commissioner undertook to transmit to His Majesty, and a Copy thereof with a Letter was ordered to be sent to his Grace the Duke of Roxburgh, Secretary of State, May 13, 1721. Sess. 3.

A Committee appointed to revise the Register of the Commission of the last Assembly, to audite the Procurator and Agent for the Church their Accounts, to consider the State of the Church's publick Money, prepare Overtures about it, and bring in any Overtures and References made by that Commission to this Assembly, *Ibid.*

Committees appointed to examine the Synod-books of Merse and Triviotdale, Dumfries, Glasgow and Air, Argyle, Fife, Angus and Merns, Aberdeen, Ross and Sutherland, Orkney and Lotbrian and Tweeddale, and the Visitors ordered to observe the Directions given in the 4th Act, General Assembly 1713. *Ibid.*

The Books of the Synods of Galloway, Perth and Murray, and Presbytery-book of Zetland, not being produced, it is ordered they be brought to the next Assembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to receive in from the Commissioners from Presbyteries, their Synods and Presbyteries, Instructions to them, and any Overtures they have to offer from them, and any Remarks the Presbyteries have made upon the Overtures transmitted by the late Assembly; and to class the Matters therein-contained, and prepare Overtures therefrom to this Assembly: And also, to receive in any Accounts that shall be offered to them of the State of the Church in the North, the Highlands and Islands; particularly concerning the Growth of Popery and Superstition, and to consider the same, and prepare Overtures for suppressing and preventing thereof,

I N D E X.

thereof, and to bring in their Report to the Committee for Over-
tures, that they may prepare the same for the Assembly. *Ibid.*

Act and Recommendation for a Collection in all the Parishes in
Scotland, from House to House, in order to raise a Fund for new Ere-
ctions in the spacious Parish of *Duirness* in *Strathnaver*; with an Ap-
pointment on the Procurator and Agent for the Church, to carry on
Processes, one or more, for as many new Erections in the said Bounds,
as the foresaid Collection and Tiends of the Parish, with the Assistance
offered by the Lord *Reg.* and other Parishioners, will allow of, and
James Young of *Killicanty* Merchant in *Edinburgh* is named Collector
for all the Presbyteries be-south the Synod of *Aberdeen*, and *James*
Dunbar Merchant and late Baillie in *Inverness* for that Synod, and
all be-north the same; and they to be countable therefore to the
Commission or next Assembly, or such as they shall appoint: And it
is provided, That this shall not interfere with, or mar the Collection
formerly recommended for the *French* Protestant Colony in *Hildburg-*
hausen in *Saxony*. *Ibid.*

A Letter ordered to be written to the Lord *Rooy*, giving his Lord-
ship Thanks for the Concern he shews to have Gospel Ordinances
more plentifully dispensed in his Country, and the kind and liberal
Offers his Lordship has made for that End. *Ibid.*

A Letter to this Assembly from *Boguslaus Kopiewiez*, Minister of
the Gospel at *Vilna* in *Lithuania*, in Name and by Commission from
the Protestant Synod in that Nation, giving Thanks for the liberal
Collection this Church hath made for the Relief of the suffering
Protestants in the Bounds of that Synod. The Assembly appointed
a Committee to assist and advise the Collector in remitting the Re-
mains of that Money, and to audite his Accounts, and discharge him
of his Intromissions. *Ibid.*

Upon a Letter from the Parish of *Norristown*, craving, That the
several Presbyteries may be put in Mind of the Recommendation of
the late Assembly in Favour of that Parish, the same was granted;
and the Presbytery of *Dumblain* was ordered to use all proper Endeavours
to obtain a legal Erection in that Place. *Ibid.*

Some more Commissions produced, and Additions made to Com-
mittees, May 15, 1721. *Sess.* 4.

Some appointed to deal with the Persons named Collectors of the
Contribution for *Duirness* in *Strathnaver*, to accept. *Ibid.*

Mr. *George Grant* Student in Divinity, having *Irish*, recommended
to the Synod of *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, in order to be preferred to
the Burs of the Presbyteries of *Haddingtoun* and *Dunbar*. *Ibid.*

Mr. *John Bethune* Student, having *Irish*, to be preferred to a Burs.
Ibid.

Upon a Petition from the Presbytery of *Ellon*, the General Assem-
bly did appoint the Synod of *Aberdeen* to annex the Parishes of
Oldmeldrum and *Newmachir* to that Presbytery, unless these Parishes
give sufficient Reasons against the same. *Ibid.*

Recommendation to deficient Presbyteries and Parishes to set about
the Collecting for the *French* protestant Colony in *Hildburghausen* in
Saxony. *Ibid.*

Act approving of the Sentence of the Synod of *Perth*, appointing
the Presbytery of *Auchterarder*, to settle Mr. *William Duncan* Proba-
tioner, in the vacant Parish of *Monyvaird* and *Strowan*. *Ibid.*

Appointment of a Diet for hearing the Complaint of the Presby-
tery of *Perth*, against the Sentence of a former Commission, with
relation to Mr. *William Inglis* at *Kilspindy*. *Ibid.*

Appointment of a Diet for hearing a Reference of the Synod of
Fife, against Mr. *Alexander Scrimgeour's* being Professor of Divinity
in the College of *St. Andrews*, and with relation to other Masters in
the University there. *Ibid.*

The Members of Assembly ordered to meet by their Synods, sever-
ally to name Persons in their respective Synods, to be a Committee
for nominating the Members of the Commission to be appointed by

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the Assembly, and preparing the Draught of their Commission, &c. *May 16, 1721. Sess: 5.*

Report of the Visitors of the Commission-book, and the Attestation of that Book in the usual Manner, *May 17, 1721. Sess: 6.*

The Reports of the Committee for the Commission-book, &c. concerning the Procurator and Agent for the Church, their Accounts were produced to the General Assembly, and referred to the Commission, with Power to discharge the foresaid Persons, as they shall see Cause. *Ibid.*

A State of the Church's publick Money being brought in by the Committee, showing that the Church is resting 567 lib: 3 sh: sterl: of Debts already stated, besides many Claims in Dependence; and Overtures for preventing the Church's contracting more Debt, till what is stated be paid; Were referred to the Commission, with Power to do therein as they shall see Cause. *Ibid.*

Lists of Persons in the several Synods brought in, as a Committee for drawing the Commission to be given by this Assembly, naming the Persons to be thereon. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to determine in any Processes that shall be brought before them, for Settlement of the Parish of *Errol*. *Ibid.*

The Commission empowered to receive, hear, and finally determine, in any References or Appeals that may be brought before them, about planting any of the Churches of the City of *Edinburgh*. *Ibid.*

It is referred to the Commission, to give all Countenance and Assistance to the Principal and other Ministers of the King's College in *Aberdeen*, with respect to the Process raised against them by the late deprived Masters of that College. *Ibid.*

The Assembly empowers their Commission to receive and finally determine in any Reference or Appeal that shall be brought before them from the Synod of *Dumfries*, about the Case of Mr. *John Somervell* at *Carlaverick*, with relation to Doctor *Huton's* Mortification, now depending before the Presbytery of *Dumfries*. *Ibid.*

The Commission are empowered to take under Consideration, the Petition and Representation of the Presbytery of *Perth*, with relation to Mr. *William Inglis* at *Kilspindy*, and to call him before them, and to ripen and prepare the whole Affair for the next General Assembly, and cause cite him there. *Ibid.*

The Commission are empowered to take under Consideration the Reference of the Synod of *Fife*, in the Case of Mrs. *Alexander Scrimzour*, *John Craigie*, *Francis Pringle* and *Ninian Young*, Masters in the University of *St. Andrews*, and do therein as they see Cause. *Ibid.*

The Commission are empowered to consider the Representation of the Presbytery of *Dunkeld*, with relation to the Situation of the diverse *Higbland* Parishes in their Bounds, which are very large, and Parts of other Parishes interjected, with Power to do therein as they shall judge most proper and needful. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Petition of the Presbytery of *Abermethy*, craving the Continuance of 400 Merks yearly, to One to preach in the popish Country of *Glenlivet*, and be assisting to the Ministers of *Kirkmichael* and *Inveraven*; and to appoint the Procurator and Agent for the Church, to carry on a Process for settling the Stipend of *Alvie*, with Power to the Commission to do therein as they see Cause. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Petition of the Presbytery of *Abermethy*, concerning the sending Mr. *James Gilchrist* to their Bounds. *Ibid.*

A Petition for re-erecting the Presbytery of *Aberlour*, appointed to be sent to the Synod of *Murray* to be seen by them, that they may give their Mind thereupon, and the Synod's Judgment in that Affair being returned to the Commission, they are instructed to consider the Matter, and to prepare an Overture thereanent, to be laid before the next General Assembly. *Ibid.*

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Reference to the Commission, to consider a Petition for the Presbyteries in *Orkney*, craving Part of the publick Money, for helping to defray the extraordinary Charges of the Presbytery of *North Isles*; also to consider the Claim of Mr. *John Cob's* Relict, formerly given in; To grant Help for building the Church of *Stronsay* in a more central Place; That Application may be made for the Government's Proportion for maintaining Schools in *Orkney*; That the Procurator and Agent for the Church may be appointed to use legal Diligence, in order to the repairing ruinous Churches and Manfes, and Settlement of Schools: And *Lastly*, To call for the Accounts of the Contribution for building the Church of *Stromness*, and fall upon some effectual Way for re-imbursing the Representatives of *Hary Graham of Breakness*, of what they laid out in building and finishing that Church: And the Commission is impowered to do in these Matters as they shall see reasonable. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Petition for the Synod of *Angus and Merns*, craving, That the extraordinary Correspondence may be continued yet longer. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission, of a Petition of the Synod of *Angus and Merns*, craving some of the publick Money for defending, in a Process for preserving a Mortification by the Laird of *Glenfargubay* for poor Schollars in the Parish of *Conveth*, with Power to do therein as they see Cause. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Petition for Mr. *Archibald Muir* late Minister at *Bora*, craving to be reponed against a Sentence of Deposition by the late General Assembly, with Power to do therein as they find just. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Petition for Mr. *Henry Robin* late Minister at *Bruntisland*, craving, That the Bar put by the late Assembly against his being further heard, may be removed. *Ibid.*

The Commission impowered to consider a Reference of the Synod of *Fife*, complaining of the Disturbance given by Mr. *Henry Robin* to Mr. *James Thomson* now Minister at *Bruntisland* by Law Processes. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Petition of Mrs. *Kilpatrick* for Charity, with Power to do therein as they see Cause. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of the Petition of *Robert Graham of Breakness*, craving to be refunded of what his Grandfather laid out on the Church of *Stromness*. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Petition of the Presbytery of *Skye*, representing the vast Extent of Parishes in their Bounds, the great Number of Papiſts therein, the Difficulties Ministers labour under there, the Want of Schools, Need of new Erections, and craving the Assembly's Assistance in order to remove their many Grievances; and the Commission is impowered to do therein as they see just. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of a Petition for the Presbytery of *Inverness*, with respect to a new Erection in the Parish of *Kilarlaty*, and the vacant Stipends thereof. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission of all Affairs that were referred to, or depending before the late Commission, and were not discussed by them. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed for revising the Minutes of this Assembly, and giving Directions for printing such of the Acts thereof as are to be standing Rules, or of publick Use. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this Sederunt read, all the Minutes of preceeding Sederunts having been read at the respective Diets, subsequent to each of them. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speech to the Assembly, and to the Commissioner. *Ibid.*

The Commissioner's Speech at the Conclusion of this General Assembly. *Ibid.*

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